



## ILLINOIS COAL MINES FIFTH INSPECTION DISTRICT

1883-1884

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The following information was abstracted from the Third Biennial Report of the Bureau of Labor Statistics Illinois 1884. The following is for the Fifth District for counties of Clinton, Gallatin, Jackson, Marion, Perry, Randolph, St. Clair, Saline, Washington, and Williamson. Robert WINNING, Inspector Fifth District.

Coal output was very small in 1883-84 compared to 1890 when Illinois employment increased from 200,000 to over 600,000 in 1920 the number of mines increased from 2500 in 1895 to a peak of 9,000 in 1919. Air ventilation, escapement outlets, and wages were of great importance to the miners and management at this time.

I abstracted the small coal mines by counties where small investors operated their mines on marginal gains. First, Mr. WINNINGS report to Mr. J. S. LORD, Secretary of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of Illinois:

Sir-I have the honor to submit herewith my report as Inspector of Coal Mines for the Fifth District, which embraces the lower extremity of the State, south of and including St. Clair county, for the year ending July 1, 1884.

During the year the coal trade has been unsettled and subject to serious disturbances, owing to floods on one hand, and fluctuations in freight rates to the St. Louis market on the other. This rate was at one time as low as 12-1/2 cents a ton to all shippers within a radius of 18 miles from St. Louis. This led to such competition for that trade that coal was in some instances sold and delivered to retail consumers in that city as low as \$1.75 per ton.

Many operators outside that radius were accordingly obliged to shut down. Everywhere there was reduction of expenses and of the prices of mining. Machine mining was stimulated, and many miners, especially from the vicinity of Belleville, left the district altogether.

On the other hand, the unusually high water of the Ohio river last spring caused the suspension of the mines in Gallatin and Saline counties, and floods impaired the business of Perry county.

Notwithstanding these vicissitudes, and possibly on account of the stimulus they afforded, the aggregate output of the district is somewhat greater for this year than any previous year, the gain being principally in St. Clair county.



## ILLINOIS COAL MINES (Cont.)

Number of tons mined in the district in 1883.....1,990,921  
Number of tons mined in the district in 1884.....2,128,230  
Increase.....137,309

Twenty-eight indictments have been found against mine operators in this district for failure to comply with the law requiring the coal of each miner to be weighted at the mines. In twenty instances the parties were fined; seven cases were taken up to the Appellate Court, and one to the Supreme Court of the State, from neither of which have decisions yet been rendered.

There has been a good deal of conflict and bitterness for several years in the St. Clair district occasioned by the use of mining machines, and the hand-miners, by working the coal for very low prices, have hoped to demonstrate that the machines could not be profitably used. In this way prices for mining have run down from 50 cents a ton as low as 28 cents. Regular miners have also refused to recognize the machines by not accepting work on them, and the owners have retaliated by refusing to put the regular miners on, and have employed others for the machines and for blasting and hauling the coal, all of which has aggravated the feeling of miners to successfully work his coal.

Popular sentiment, however, is rather with the miners than the owners, and physicians have pronounced the effect of the compressed air upon the machine operators to be injurious to health.

During the summer a movement was set on foot to establish a living rate of wages for the hand-miner, but after several conferences and a failure to agree, the men finally went to work for a cent and a half a bushel. Subsequently, however, the owners advanced his rate to a cent and three-quarters per bushel, or 43-3/4 cents per ton, which is now the ruling price for hand-mining.

Accompanying this I submit my notes on the different mines in each county, a detailed record of the casualties which have occurred, and such tables of statistics of the production of coal, etc., as required by law.

Very respectfully,  
Robert WINNING,  
Inspector 5th District.

## CASUALTIES IN THE FIFTH DISTRICT

### FATAL ACCIDENTS

- Frank COOK, driver at the mine of the FRIZZELL Coal Co., aged 18, was killed by being caught with the cage. The company settled with his mother, who is a widow. Perry Co.
- Thomas SOWMAN was killed October 17, 1883, at Tunnel No. 7 of the St. Louis Ore and Steel Company, by the fall of coal. He had left in his room to finish loading some coal by the other men working in the vicinity, and by the man who worked in the room with him. Subsequently the driver returned for the coal, saw no



## ILLINOIS COAL MINES (Cont.)

light in the room and went away, supposing Mr. SOWMAN had also gone. As he was missed, however, at supper, search was made for him, when he was found in his room with his head crushed under a mass of coal which had fallen upon him. He left a widow and three children. Jackson Co., Murphysboro, IL.

- Alexander TEMPLE was killed November 30, 1883, at ROSEBOROUGH'S shaft, on the Cairo and St. Louis Railroad, by a fall of coal. He was 18 years old, and was working alone in a room adjoining that of his brother-in-law. The latter on going in to look after him found him crushed beneath the coal and dead. Sparta, Randolph Co., IL

- Fritz HEISLER, widower, aged 63, was killed by falling coal in his room at KNAUS & BROTHER'S mine, December 11, 1883. He was loading his box and standing under the coal which was cut on one side. It gave way without warning and killed him instantly. This practice of working under coal which is partly detached is a custom more or less prevalent in this district, and miners are disposed to resent any suggestion as to the danger of it. St. Clair Co., IL

- Edward SUDDOTH was killed by the falling of coal at the Trenton mine, on the 1st of March, 1884. Trenton, Clinton Co., IL

- Thomas HUDSON was killed at Tunnel No. 7, St. Louis Ore and Steel Company, by a fall of the top coal. He had fired a shot just before dinner, and immediately afterwards went in to the face and sat down in front of the coal, when it fell upon him. He died from his injuries before he could be removed from the mine. He left a widow and four children. Murphysboro, Jackson Co., IL

- Paul SUPERABLE, aged 40, unmarried, was underming a standing shot, working alone because he was not considered a good workman. There was a slip running through the coal and roof, and when he had cut under to the slip, the coal and rock came down, crushing him so that he died before he could be carried home. [Note: No town or mine listed]

- Adam KUNKLE was killed at Conrad REINICKE'S Shaft No. 1, May 17, 1884. He was engaged the day before to shovel away from a machine. While so occupied, some loose coal from the face fell on him in such a manner as to inflict fatal injuries, Birkner, St. Clair Co., IL

## NON-FATAL ACCIDENTS

-June 6, 1883, at Centralia mines. Joseph TAYLOR fired a shot which knocked out the props; while resetting them a quantity of slate fell, breaking his leg. Marion Co., IL

-Sept. 7, 1883, at White Oak Mine. John HUILSON had his head bruised by falling slate, Marissa, St. Clair Co., IL

- July 12, 1883, Fred DESBERGH while setting props, had both legs broken by falling slate at Marissa Coal Co's mine, Marissa, St. Clair Co., IL.

- Nov. 15, 1883, while Martin SAMLLAM was making a cartridge it burst. In catching the powder in his hat, it ignited from a spark from his lamp, exploding a keg of powder near by burning him severely. [Note: No mine or town listed]



## ILLINOIS COAL MINES (Cont.)

- At Bruce mine, Frank SENTER while filling his car had his arm broken by falling coal.
- Henry DYER was burned by powder at Bruce mine while drilling a hole that had missed fire the evening before. He was idle four weeks from its effects.- March 1, 1884, Henry VOGEL was seriously hurt by falling coal at Joseph HANKE'S mine, Trenton and was unable to work for two months. Clinton Co., IL
- Dec. 4, 1883, J. WILLIAMS (a colored miner) at St. John's mine had his leg broken by falling coal while filling his car. Perry Co., IL
- Dec. 10, 1883, at St. John's slope, Henry BAIRD while unloading a car had his leg broken by falling slate. Perry Co.
- Nov. 15, 1883, Randolph BISHOP had one leg broken and the other dislocated at hip by falling slate, while loading a car with slack at Sun Coal & Coke Mine, DuQuoin, Perry Co.
- May 5, 1884, Francis DOYLE, at St. John slope was drawing pillars and shoveling coal from under top coal and slate, to take down coal and set timbers to the slate, when it came down, bruising him severly on his hips and head, knocking out eight teeth. Perry Co., IL
- T. HOWELLS, at DuQuoin Coal Mining Company's mine, was hurt in the groin by rope slipping off the drum, while he was at work on top of the cage putting in guide. Perry Co.
- May 31, 1884, John GAMBLE had his collar bone broken while bringing out a trip of full cars at Schureman mine, a wheel was broken on the car he was riding, throwing him against the rib. Belleville, St. Clair Co., IL
- June 24, 1884, Nicholas GARDNER and Mathias ISSLER were severly hurt at Schureman mine by falling roof. While running a machine, GARDNER'S left arm was badly cut, and ISSLER had his leg broken. Perry Co., IL
- Oct. 24, 1883, John KINGHAM, employed as shoveler for machine at William SKELLET'S mine, had his leg broken by a collision of pit cars on one of which he was riding. St. Clair Co., IL
- Jan. 12, 1884, at SKELLET mine, John KUMMICK was seriously injured by slate falling on him while loading a car with coal. His ribs were crushed into his lungs. The doctor says he cannot live. St. Clair Co., IL
- Sept. 29, 1883, James SMITH was badly bruised on head and shoulders by falling slate while working with a machine at SKELLET mine. St. Clair Co., IL
- Dec. 6, 1883, at Coulterville mines, by an explosion of gas, six men were seriously burned. James W. SIVELY had his clothes entirely burned off. John MALARN about his face and back. James FRIOR, face, neck and right hand. Frank HORN, face, back and arms. W. S. REID, face and hands. John ORR, face, neck, arms and back. Coulterville mines, Randolph Co., IL
- Mar. 11, 1884, Richard BEATY, driver at tunnel No. 7, was caught between the cars and bruised; he was idle one week.
- Mar 20, 1884, at St. Louis Ore and Steel Co. mine, Forest MINNEWELL, while driving was hurt by falling timber, knocked out by car jumping the track. Murphysboro, Jackson Co., IL
- Watt. BICKTON had his head cut and back hurt by coal from a blast fired before he had time to get away.



## ILLINOIS COAL MINES (Cont.)

- Nov. 14, 1883, Morgan DAVIS was severely bruised at Providence Coal Co. mine by the fall of coal he was undermining. St. Clair Co., IL
- Oct. 2, 1883, at A. BRANDENBERGER & Co.'s mine, George PLATT, had his arm broken by not going far enough away while firing a blast. St. Clair Co., IL
- June 20, 1884, Frank KAMER had his back injured at John KLOES mine by falling slate which he had tried to take down a short time before.
- Oct. 20, 1883, Anothony FABER was severely burned by the explosion of about two-thirds of a keg of powder at GILLIWICK & RICHARDS mine. [Note: No town or county given.]
- May 17, 1884, at HAZARD & EMORY'S mine, Charles EMORY, Supt. in repairing escapement shaft, timber fell, striking him on the head; he was idle one week. St. Clair Co., IL
- April 20, 1884, John GARDINER had his left leg broken by the bucket becoming detached and falling back on him in a shaft which was sunk by Pittsburgh Mining Co. at Belleville, St. Clair Co., IL
- Sept. 10, 1883, at VICTOR mine, Joseph WORMS was hurt on his back by coal from a blast he had fired and went back to examine. Birkner, St. Clair Co., IL
- Nov. 23, 1883, William LEWELLIN received a severe injury at VICTOR mine by coal from a blast striking him on his head. St. Clair Co., IL
- Apr. 10, 1884, while Joseph WORMS was taking down top coal at VICTOR mine, slate fell on him bruising his back. Birkner, St. Clair Co., IL [Welch Mining Co.]
- Sept. 14, 1883, Henry LENZ was hurt by cage coming down on him while passing through the bottom of shaft at Conrad REINICKE'S mine. Birkner, St. Clair Co., IL
- Sept. 12, 1883, at Conrad REINICKE'S mine No. 1, Bennett KELNER was hurt while loading a car. Birkner Station, St. Clair Co., IL
- Oct. 11, 1883, Charles REIBLING was severely hurt on his left side and leg by loose coal falling on him while shoveling for a machine at Conrad REINICKE'S mine. St. Clair Co., IL
- Mar 14, 1884, at Conrad REINICKE'S mine, Victor SCHENDLIN received a bruise on his back and arm by falling slate while filling box of water. St. Clair Co., IL
- Jan. 14, 1884, Henry MARKSTORM was burned on his face, arms and breast by igniting powder in a hole that had become clogged in charging and which he was trying to force back. Idle two months. [Note: No town or county given.]
- May 17, 1884, while Adam KUNKLE was shoveling for a machine at Conrad REINICKE'S mine, about four or five bushels of coal fell on him, injuring him internally. St. Clair Co., IL
- Mar 28, 1884, James CONROY was severely burned on his face, breast and arms by the explosion of powder in a standing shot which he was drilling out at J. TAYLOR'S mine, the blast of coal tearing the flesh from his right arm. St. Clair Co., IL
- June 7, 1884, Joseph BODAKER was bruised on his side and abdomen by falling of roof between the props at J. TAYLOR'S shaft. St. Clair Co., IL



## ILLINOIS COAL MINES (Cont.)

### GALLATIN COUNTY MINES OPERATING IN 1883-1884

Cassell, Temple & Co. - Equality; Bowlesville Mining Co.- Bowlesville; John DONAHOE -Equality.

### JACKSON COUNTY MINES OPERATING IN 1883-1884

Big Muddy Coal Co. - Murphysboro; Carbon Hill Mine - SE of Carbondale; Carbondale Coal & Coke Company; Gartside Coal Company Mine; HARRISON Shaft - Carbondale; St. Louis Ore & Steel Co.

### PERRY COUNTY MINES OPERATING IN 1883-1884

Beaucoup Mine; COX Mine - Tamaroa; D. C. BARBOUR & Son - Tamaroa; DuQuoin Coal Mining Co.; Enterprise Coal & Coke Co. - DuQuoin; FRIZZELL Coal Co. - DuQuoin; John H. SCHULTZE'S Mine - Pinckneyville; Paradise Mines, HALLIDAY Brothers - St. Johns; Star Coal Mining Co.; Sun Coal & Coke Co. No. 3.

### RANDOLPH COUNTY MINES OPERATING IN 1883-1884

JONES & NESBIT - Coulterville; BARNARD Coal Company - near Chester; Willaim GALBY - Percy; Randolph Coal Mining Company - Percy; R. H. ROSEBOROUGH Mine - Sparta; D. B. BOYD Mine- Sparta.

### ST. CLAIR COUNTY MINES OPERATING IN 1883-1884

A. OGDEN & Son Mine - Rentchler; Abbey Coal Co. #1 & #5 - Caseyville; BENNETT Mine - near Lebanon; Brandenberger Mine - Wilderman Station; Concordia Mining Co.; Conrad REINECK, Mine No. 1 - Birkner Station; DEUZENBURGH'S Mine; Dutch Hollow Mine - Birkner; EMMETT Mine; Enterprise Coal Mining Co.; Freeburg Coal Co.; Gartside Coal Co. - Ridge Prairie; Gartside Coal Mine No. 2 & 3; Green Mound Coal Co. - Belleville; HAZZARD & EMORY'S Mine - Belleville; HEINRICH Coal Co. - Heinrichtown; Humbolt Mine; John KLOESS' Mine; Joseph KRAUS & Brothers Mine - Belleville; Joseph MORRIS' mine - between O'Fallon & Lebanon; Joseph TAYLOR'S Mine - Alma or Ridge Prairie; KNECHT & Son - Binkner; Lebanon Mine; Main Guy Mine; Marissa Coal Co.; Mascoutah Mine; Millstadt Coal Co.; Northwestern Coal Co - Belleville; POLLOCK Mine - Birkner; POYNTON Mine; Providence Mine; REEB'S Mine; REICHART Mine - Freeburg; REINECKE Mine No. 2 - Collinsville; RENTCHLER Coal Co.; Richland Mine - Wilderman Station; S.A. WISEBORN Mine - Harmony; SKELLETT Mine; Summerfield Mine; Summit Coal Mine; VANCOURT Mine - O'Fallon; WELCH Mining Co. - Birkner; White Oaks Mine; William CRAWSON & Sons - Rentchler; William RUBBLE & Sons; YOCK Brothers Mine.

### WILLIAMSON COUNTY MINES OPERATING IN 1883-1884

Carbondale Coal & Coke Co. - Carterville; LAFLIN Slope - Carterville; DODD Shaft - Carterville; J. B. WILLIFORD- Marion; J.A. YOUNG - Carterville; George WRIGHT - W of Carterville.

### SALINE COUNTY MINES OPERATING IN 1883-1884

ROBERTS, HOWEL & Co. - Harrisburg; MASON, ALLSOPP & Co.- Stonefort; LEDFORD, C. O. GODFREY - Harrisburg; Ball Knob, C. O. GODFREY - Harrisburg; Wiley COX - New Burnside; Abraham BERZINO - Stonefort; OGDEN & STIKES - Stonefort.



## ILLINOIS COAL MINES (Cont.)

NOTE: Due to the rariety of the following mine records I abstracted fatal and non-fatal accidents for other counties in Illinois that we ordinarily don't publish in the SAGA.

### ILLINOIS COAL MINES THIRD INSPECTION DISTRICT - 1885-1886

Mr. John S. LORD,

Secretary of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of Illinois

Sir: In compliance with the law defining the duties of Inspector of Mines, I herewith submit my annual report for the year ending July 1, 1886, comprising the counties of Cass, Fulton, Logan, McLean, Menard, Peoria, Tazewell, Vermillion and Woodford; also the list of fatal and other accidents which have occurred in and about the mines of the district.

Very respectfully

James FREET

#### FATAL ACCIDENTS

- Sept. 17, 1885, John P. WATCH, age 25 years, single, resided in Kickapoo Creek, was killed by an explosion of a keg of powder in a drift mine.
- Sept. 19, 1885, Michael BOLF or WOLF, age 35 years, married, two children, resided in Lincoln, was killed by a rock fall.
- Sept. 30, 1885, Henry SOMMER, age 44 years, single, resided in Greenvew, was killed by a blast thought to have failed at Greenvew Coal Co.
- Oct. 8, 1885, D.W. KEEMAN, married, one child, resided in Grape Creek, was killed by explosion of a keg of powder.
- Oct. 28, 1885, Marion FORD, married, four children, resided in Catlin, was killed by fall of coal at Milton HODGE Mine.
- Nathaniel CRAWFORD, age 20 years, single, resided in Mapleton, Vermillion county, IL was killed by fall of rock at WASSON & MYERS Mine.
- Dec. 2, 1885, John MARTIN, married, four children, resided in Danville, was crushed by descending cage in Ellsworth No. 3 mine.
- Jan. 11, 1886, Leonard DRANYER, age 55, married, 10 children, resided in Norris, IL was killed by falling down shaft in Taylor WILLIAMS mine.
- Mar. 6, 1886, A. STANDMILLER, age 35, single, resided in Peoria, IL, Peoria county, was killed by fall of rock in CHAPMAN & LITTLE mine.
- Mar. 11, 1886, Wm. WASSON, age 33, married, three children, resided in Canton, IL, Fulton county, was fatally injured by fall of rock in WHITEHOUSE mine.
- Apr. 29, 1886, J. W. LGORGREN, married, resided in Bloomington, IL, McLean county was fatally injured by premature blast at Co-Oper. Coal Co.



## ILLINOIS COAL MINES (Cont.)

### NON-FATAL ACCIDENTS

- July 15, 1885, John FAUSTH of Pekin, IL., leg broken by fall of rock in Victor mine.
- Aug. 5, 1885, Frank GRIFFIN of Bloomington, IL, leg broken by fall of coal in McLean County Coal Company.
- Sept. 12, 1885, Lincoln LILLEY of Lincoln, IL, ankle sprained by fall in Lincoln Mining Company.
- Sept. 12, 1885, Fred WAGGONER of Chandlerville, IL, back hurt by fall of rock in Wm. SHORES mine.
- Oct. 6, 1885, M. SWANSKOFKI of Minonk, IL, leg bruised by fall of rock in C.&M.C. & Coal Co.
- Oct. 12, 1885, James SWITCHER of Norris, IL, bruised by rapid descent of cage in Taylor WILLIAMS mine.
- Oct. 12, 1885, Alfred VETIM of Norris, IL, bruised by rapid descent of cage in Taylor WILLIAMS mine.
- Nov. 2, 1885, Lewis NELSON of Grape Creek, IL, arm broken by fall of coal in Grape Creek Coal & Coke Company.
- Nov. 4, 1885, Philip SENTION of Grape Creek, IL, back hurt by fall of slate in Grape Creek Coal & Coke Company.
- Nov. 4, 1885, Jules CHRISTINSON of Grape Creek, IL, ankle broken by fall of coal in Grape Creek Coal & Coke Company.
- Nov. 25, 1885, Wm. BECKERT of Minonk, IL, shoulder & arm hurt by fall of rock in C. & M. & Coal Co.
- Dec. 3, 1885, Charles JOHNSTON of Bloomington, IL, body bruised by fall of coal in McLean County Coal Company.
- Dec. 4, 1885, Jacob JACOBSON of Minonk, IL, leg broken by fall of rock in Minonk Coal & Coke Company.
- Dec. 8, 1885, Georgge BAXTER of Bryant, IL, spine injured by descending cage in BRYANT Coal Company.
- Dec. 9, 1885, Ben POOL of St. David, IL, leg broken by fall of coal in Taylor WILLIAMS mine.
- Dec. 10, 1885, John SPEARLING of Grape Creek, IL, bowels injured by pick handle in Grape Creek Coal & Coke Company.
- Dec. 26, 1885, Wm. WHITTLE of Pekin, IL, badly bruised by cage running back swiftly in Norman C. HAWLEY mine.
- Dec. 26, 1885, Wm. DANDY of Pekin, IL, badly bruised by cage running back swiftly in Norman C. HAWLEY mine.
- Jan. 24, 1886, Charles ROBINSON of Minonk, IL, back and legs hurt by fall of rock in C. & M.C. & C. Company.
- Feb. 4, 1886, James MITCHELL of Greenvview, IL, lost eyesight by premature blast in Greenvview Coal Company.
- Feb. 13, 1886, Joseph B. KINDER of Pekin, IL, back and legs hurt by fall of rock in Norman C. HAWLEY mine.
- Feb. 27, 1886, Michael YOUNG of Hanna, IL, back hurt by cage descending on him in Hanna City Coal Co.
- Mar. 5, 1886, Charles MOHLER of Lincoln, IL, injured by pit-car in Lincoln Mining Company.
- Mar. 26, 1886, Fred RUNGO of Orch. Mine was injured by fall of coal in Ger. Co-Oper. Company.
- Apr. 4, 1886, Harry BROWN of Elmwood, IL, hurt by rail thrown down shaft in Elmwood Coal Company.
- Apr. 15, 1886, Mat REGH of Orch. Mine was injured by fall of coal in Ger. Co-oper. Company.



## ILLINOIS COAL MINES (Cont.)

- May 27, 1886, Wm. FORBES of Bloomington, IL, hurt by fall of rock in McLean County Coal Company
- June 2, 1886, Ben GRIFFEN of Petersburg, IL, hurt by point of pick in J.C. CABANIS mine.
- June 29, 1886, Charles JOHNSTON of Bloomington, IL, hurt by fall of coal in McLean County Coal Company.

## ILLINOIS COAL MINES FOURTH INSPECTION DISTRICT - 1885-1886

Annual report for the year ending July 1, 1886, for counties of Bond, Calhoun, Christian, Coles, Edgar, Greene, Jasper, Jersey, Macon, Macoupin, Madison, Morgan, Montgomery, Sangamon, Scott and Shelby. Walton RUTLEDGE, Inspector.

### FATAL ACCIDENTS

- Sept. 14, 1885, Barnh'dt SATIRE, age 35, married, resided in Collinsville, IL, fatally injured by premature explosion; died nine days later. Casualty of the Canteen Coal Company.
- Sept. 14, 1885, H. STROUSHEAD, age 24, single, resided in Troy, IL was killed by fall of top coal in the Troy Coal Company.
- Nov. 28, 1885, Ant'ne DEBELAK, age 23, single, resided in Collinsville, IL was killed by fall of top coal in the HUNTLEY Bluff mine.
- Dec. 4, 1885, Thomas BRENNAN, age 48, married, seven children, resided in Springfield, IL was fatally injured by falling slate in the Wabash Coal Company No. 1 mine.
- Dec. 24, 1885, John NOLAN, age 17, single, resided in Springfield, IL was fatally injured by falling slate in the Cap. Co-op. Coal Company.
- Feb. 11, 1886, Joseph GESCHETTI, age 32, single, resided in Collinsville, IL was killed by fall of coal from blast in the LUMAJHIS mine.
- Feb. 27, 1886, Fred HESS, age 35, married, five children, resided in Collinsville, IL was killed by falling slate in the Abbey No. 3 mine.
- Mar 15, 1886, Henry HYDE, age 40, married, resided in Edwardsville, IL was fatally injured by fall of coal in the SHERMACHS mine.
- May 17, 1886, James MCGONIGIE, age 35, married, resided in Mattoon, IL was killed instantly by falling slate in the Mattoon Coal Company.

### NON-FATAL ACCIDENTS -

- Jan. 5, 1886, August DEPPE of Staunton, IL both legs broken by falling slate at Ellsworth No. 6 mine.
- Mar. 26, 1886, J. FITZSIMMONS of Mt. Olive, IL arm broken by fall from coal box at Ellsworth No. 9 mine.
- June 1886, Frank BARTLE of Mt. Olive, IL hurt by fall of coal in Ellsworth No. 19 mine.
- Sept. 30, 1885, Jefferson KNAGGS of Mt. Olive was crippled for life by premature blast in the Anchor Coal Company.
- Oct. 31, 1885, Fritz STORM of Staunton, IL was hurt on head by falling prop in the Ellsworth No. 5 mine.



## ILLINOIS COAL MINES (Cont.)

- Dec. 24, 1885, Fritz VESPER of Staunton, IL leg broken by fall of coal in the Ellsworth No. 5 mine.
- Oct. 30, 1885, Herman SAUTNER of Mt. Olive, IL foot and ankle hurt by fall of coal in the Ellsworth No. 8 mine.
- Feb. 1, 1886, Frank SAUTNER of Mt. Olive, IL foot and leg bruised by fall of coal in the Ellsworth No. 8 mine.
- James JUPE of Girard, IL leg and arm broken by fall of coal in the Girard Coal Company.
- John CARY of Girard, IL head hurt by fall of slate in the Girard Coal Company.
- Nov. 21, 1885, Joseph GABIS of Gillespie, IL was burned by powder in filling cartridge in Gillespie Coal Company.
- Sept. 3, 1885, Henry HALL of Litchfield, IL was hurt in face by falling slate in the Litchfield Coal Company.
- Mar. 12, 1886, George FISHER, Troy, IL, leg broken by falling coal at the Troy Coal Company.
- Mar. 6, 1886, Wm HOUGHTON of Troy, IL foot was bruised by falling coal at the Troy Coal Company.
- Oct. 13, 1885, George ROBERTS of Collinsville, IL leg was broken by falling coal at the Confidence mine.
- Oct. 5, 1885, Wm. WARD of Collinsville, IL back and legs were hurt by falling coal at the Abbey No. 3 mine.
- Feb. 5, 1886, John E. KLUGO of Collinsville, IL left foot caught under cage at the Abbey No. 3 mine.
- Feb. 23, 1886, Matthew FORBES of Collinsville, IL leg bruised by box running off track at the Abbey No. 3 mine.
- Mar. 12, 1886, Luke AGAN of Ridgely, IL was injured by premature explosion at the W.&S. Coal Company.
- Aug. 17, 1885, John LIDDLE of Springfield, IL was injured by blast blowing through pillar at the Sangamon No. 2 mine.
- Oct. 27, 1885, Thomas JONES of Springfield, IL injured by fire-damp explosion at Sangamon No. 2 mine.
- June 10, 1886, William BELL of Springfield, IL hurt by falling slate at the Sangamon No. 2 mine.
- Oct. 22, 1885, Charles WALKER of Iles June, IL head and face hurt by blast at the J.W. MOORE & Company.
- Sept. 3, 1885, John ROSTICK of Decatur, IL injured by explosion of fire-damp at Decatur Coal Company.
- Sept. 3, 1885, Adolph HINSELL of Decatur, IL injured by explosion of fire-damp at Decatur Coal Company.
- Sept. 17, 1885, Lawrence LENORD of Niantie, IL hurt by rapid descent in cage at Niantie Coal Company.
- Sept. 17, 1885, John MARTIN of Niantie, IL hurt by rapid descent in cage at Niantie Coal Company.
- Sept. 17, 1885, Patrick MCGINTY of Niantie, IL hurt by rapid descent in cage at Niantie Coal Company.
- July 1, 1886, J.W. BIRD of Pana, IL foot hurt by fall of slate at the Pana Coal Mining Company.
- May 5, 1886, Joseph MARTIN of Nilwood, IL leg was broken by fall of slate at NOONAN'S mine.

## ILLINOIS COAL MINES FIFTH INSPECTION DISTRICT - 1885-1886

Annual report for the year ending July 1, 1886, for counties of



## ILLINOIS COAL MINES (Cont.)

Clinton, Gallatin, Jackson, Marion, Perry, Randolph, Saline, St. Clair, Washington and Williamson. Robert WINNING, Inspector.

### FATAL ACCIDENTS

- Oct. 4, 1885, William REESE of Collinsville, IL, age 57, married, was knocked down, run over and instantly killed by coal cars in the Abbey Coal Company mine.
- Feb. 8, 1886, August GAAR of Wilderman, IL, age 69, married, six children, was fatally injured by fall of top coal in the BRANDENBURGER & Co. mine.
- Dec. 12, 1885, George DANBACH of Belleville, IL, age 52, married, one child, had leg crushed and amputated the next day, and he died Dec. 23, 1885. He worked in the Humboldt Mine.
- Nov. 17, 1885, Michael HOCK of Belleville, IL, age 18, single was killed instantly by a blast in the Green Mound mine.
- Oct. 28, 1885, P. BOLLENBACH of W. Belleville, IL, age 46, married, five children had leg crushed: he forbid amputation and died 21 days later. He worked in the Concordia mine.
- Nov. 12, 1885, John DOW of Coultersville, IL, age 22, single, killed by fall of slate in the Coultersville mine.
- Apr. 28, 1886, George GOODE of St. Johns, IL, age 47, married, four children, fatally injured by fall of slate in the Illinois Cen. Iron Company mine.
- Nov. 12, 1885, F.H.C. BAGWELL of Campbell Hill, IL, age 52, married, two children, killed by fall of sandrock at Campbell Hill mine.
- Sept. 5, 1885, A. DELLEWESTO of Murphysboro, IL, age 28, single was killed by fall of top coal at St. Louis Ore & Steel Company, No. 7.
- Sept. 13, 1885, the following three men fatally injured by an explosion of powder in kegs into one of which snuff of lamp wick was knocked at Breese mine: James ZEHEREN of Breese, age 45, single; Theodore KREUP of Breese, age 32, married; and C. SPELLMAN of Breese, age 24, single.

### NON-FATAL ACCIDENTS

- Sept. 4, 1885, Adam SACHKS of Reeps Station, foot broken by fall of coal in Shureman & Brothers mine.
- Jan. 7, 1886, Jacob STEEL of Reeps Station, shoulder, arm and leg severely hurt by fall of slate in Shureman & Brothers mine.
- Oct. 28, 1885, Wm. BIER of Reeps Station, IL, head and hand hurt by fall of rock in Wm. KELLETTS mine.
- Apr. 17, 1886, James DAVIE of Alma, IL, leg crushed between cars in Gartside Coal Co.
- Feb. 12, 1886, John SAUNDERS of Nashville, IL, face and arms burnt by blast in Nashville Coal Company.
- Oct. 29, 1885, Charles STROTMAN of Wilderman, IL, foot hurt by fall of coal in Brandenburg & Co.
- Oct. 29, 1885, O. CLINGINGFURTH of Wilderman, IL, head and back bruised by fall of coal in Brandenburg & Co.
- Mar. 10, 1886, Jacob LILL of Wilderman, IL, leg broken by fall of coal in Brandenburg & Co.
- Dec. 1, 1885, Aaron WHEELER of Marissa, IL, head, breast and arm hurt by fall of coal in White Oaks mine.



## ILLINOIS COAL MINES (Cont.)

- Mar. 10, 1886, John SEIBICH of Wilderman, IL, head cut by fall of coal in Brandenburger & Co.
- Sept. 7, 1885, Phillip SMITH, Heinrichtown, IL, Back and hips hurt by fall of coal, HEINRICH Brothers mine.
- Sept. 9, 1885, Simon GOODWICK, Rees Station, IL, head and leg bruised by fall of coal, Jos. YALE & Brothers mine.
- Nov. 17, 1885, Henry HOCK, W. Belleville, IL, leg broken by blast, Green Mound mine.
- Mar. 25, 1886, George WHIP, Alma, IL, bruised by fall of coal in Alma mine.
- Nov. 14, 1885, John NAUERBERG, Belleville, IL, scalp wound by fall of coal in MAULE'S mine.
- Jan. 2, 1886, Michael KELLEY, Lenzeburg, IL, collar bone broken and head cut by coal in HASWICK Mine.
- Aug. 31, 1885, George ZEITLEIN, Marissa, IL, flesh wound in leg by fall of coal, Marissa Coal Company.
- Aug. 31, 1885, Joseph MEUFLE, Marissa, IL, Foot bruised by fall of coal. Marissa Coal Company.
- Jan. 8, 1886, George BAUER, Belleville, IL, nasal bone broken & face hurt by fall of coal. GALLWICK'S Mine.
- Nov. 23, 1885, Benjamin YOUNG, Rentchler, IL, ankle broken by car leaving track. A. OGDENS Mine.
- Jan. 27, 1886, Edward MCDONALD, foot crushed by fall of coal. Lebanon mine.
- July 17, 1885, J.W. EINIER, W. Belleville, IL, foot & ankle crushed by fall of slate. Briar Hill Mine.
- Dec. 9, 1885, Adam WEISS, Belleville, IL, back & shoulders hurt by fall of coal, HARDING & EMORY Mine No. 1.
- Aug. 22, 1885, Rasell RUDOLPH, Belleville, IL, back & shoulder bruised by fall of coal. C. RENICKE, No. 1 mine.
- Nov. 5, 1885, Martin COMER, Belleville, IL, head & shoulder bruised by fall of coal, C. RENICKE, No. 1 mine.
- Oct. 21, 1885, Willlliam WESTONE, W. Belleville, IL, breast & hand hurt by blast, Old Harmony mine.
- Apr. 16, 1886, Robert MICHAELS, W. Belleville, IL, head & ankle hurt by fall, Pittsburg Mining Company.
- Mar. 10, 1886, Wm. S. LAYMAN, Percy, IL, body bruised by fall of coal, BARNARD Coal Company.
- Dec. 29, 1885, James WELSH, Tamaroa, IL, severely hurt by fall of slate. BARBOUR & Sons mine.
- July 4, 1885, Peter KAUFMAN, St. Johns, IL, leg broken by fall of coal., Ill. Cent. I & C.C.
- Mar.. 28, 1886, John ANDERSON St. Johns, IL, hand crushed by fall of slate. Ill. Cent. I & C.C.
- Oct. 6, 1885, John FLYNN, DuQuoin, IL, leg broken by fall of slate. Wm. GREENWOOD mine.
- Jan. 27, 1886, Nicholas YOUNG, DuQuoin, IL, jawbone broken by fall of slate. Enterprise mine.
- Feb. 6, 1886, John BROOKSHAW, DuQuoin, IIL, back slightly hurt by fall of slate, DuQuoin Coal Company.
- Jan. 29, 1886, Joseph JOHNSTONE, Centralia, IL, face & arms burned by blast. Centralia mine.
- Jan. 29, 1886, Ira CARPON, Centralia, IL, face burned slightly by blast. Centralia mine.



## ILLINOIS COAL MINES (Cont.)

- Sept. 29, 1885, James WILLIAMS, Centralia, IL, back hurt by blast. Centralia mine.
- Oct. 19, 1885, John BAKER, Sandoval, IL, feet bruised by coal from blast. Sandoval mine.
- July 12, 1885, Frank ROURK, Campbell Hill, IL, leg & arm broken by falling rock. Campbell's Hill mine.
- July 22, 1885, Phillip WHITING, Murphysboro, IL, ankle broken & back hurt by falling down shaft. HARRISON Shaft.
- Apr. 14, 1886, Eugene TAVEGIA, Murphysboro, IL, back seriously hurt by fall of slate. HARRISON Shaft.
- May 28, 1886, Burtol STRAWZA, Murphysboro, IL, foot severely bruised by cage. HARRISON Shaft.
- Dec. 5, 1885, Carl HOLMAN, Murphysboro, IL, Severely bruised by descending cage. HARRISON Shaft.
- Feb. 1, 1886, Joseph CONRY, Murphysboro, IL, bruised & ribs broken by fall of coal. Gartside No. 1 mine.
- Oct. 14, 1885, Conrad SHAFER, Ava, IL, foot broken by fall of coal. BRYDEN mine.
- Jan. 17, 1886, Edward HENNAN, Trenton, IL, slightly hurt by fall of slate. Trenton mine.
- Oct. 29, 1885, David FERDINAND, Trenton, IL, slightly hurt fall of slate. Trenton mine.
- Nov. 14, 1885, Jacob BOHN, Trenton, IL, foot bruised by fall of coal, Trenton mine.
- Jan. 7, 1886, August FENN, Trenton, IL, foot bruised by fall of coal. Trenton mine.
- Sept. 191, 1885, Michael ZEHOREN, Breese, IL, burned & cut by explosion of powder. Breese mine.
- Oct. 23, 1885, Conrad BRENNEN, Breese, IL, leg broken by fall of slate. Breese mine.
- Jan. 27, 1886, Joseph BULLER, Breese, IL, ribs broken & injured internally by fall from trestle. Breese mine.

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### SUNNYSIDE MINE - HERRIN, IL JAN. 27, 1915

Photo reads: TOP MEN - these are the boys that make the mine go. Sunnyside Mine, Herrin, IL 1-27-15. U.M.W.A. Local No. 944. Bottom row left end is Jasper JONES, step-father of Virginia LONG SMITH. Can anyone identify any of the other miners in the picture?

Sunnyside mine was in section 25 of Blairsville township, was the second in the Herrin field. Operations were begun in September 1899 by the Sunnyside coal company, in which Thomas G. WARDER was a partner. Six years later he bought out the others and reorganized the ownership as the T.G. WARDEN Coal Company.

One morning in November 1899 Mr. and Mrs. John GOALLBY and their five children got off Billy BRYAN'S train at Sunnyside junction in the midst of a corn field. A frame house had been built for them to live in, but the mine buildings were still blue prints. Their house in the woods was the only new one west of Park avenue. Herrin was a cluster of small buildings around the railroad station.



ILLINOIS COAL MINES (Cont.)



Coal was struck by the night shift November 29, 1899. The mine buildings were put up that winter. Jack GOALBY became superintendent, Albert GURNEY and John GOULD master mechanic, W. H. ("Sunnyside") BROWN the chief clerk, J.M. BAILIE the washer boss, and Captain J. W. TOLER the farm boss. Though the company owned 1360 acres of land, not enough feed could be raised for their twenty-two mules. The land deserved its nickname, "Buckhorn."

T.G. WARDEN was proud of his mine, and especially of his washer, one of the first in southern Illinois. The west limits of Herrin were extended into Blairsville township to include the miners' homes around Sunnyside. Mr. WARDEN gave the land for Sunnyside school, district 30, to replace the old Brownville school.

One Sunday morning, April 21, 1921 the washer and tippie burned. A fire in a stove caught miners' clothing hung to dry, the oil soaked floor began to blaze, and Sunnyside mine went up in smoke. Mr. WARDEN lost interest in the mine and in 1922 he sold it to J. M. McILVAINE of Chicago who was then operating the Bobby Dick mine. Mr. McILVAINE ran the mine for two years, then sold to the Burton coal company. These efforts to rebuild and work the coal never matched the grand old days. Sunnyside was closed down in 1925. (*Pioneer Folks and Pioneer Places*, by Barbare BURR HUBBS, c. 1939, pg. 224). Photo submitted by Virginia LONG SMITH.



## ILLINOIS COAL MINES (Cont.)

### MOTHER JONES

Mary HARRIS JONES (May 1, 1830-Nov. 30, 1930), labor agitator, known as "Mother" JONES, was born in Cork, Ireland, to Richard and Helen HARRIS. Her father emigrated to the United States in 1835 and, on acquiring citizenship, arranged for his wife and children to follow him. Mary HARRIS attended common school and normal school in Toronto, Canada, where her father took the family while he worked as a railroad construction laborer. She first taught in a convent in Monroe, Michigan, but soon went to Chicago to operate a dressmaking business. She was drawn back into teaching in Memphis, Tennessee, and there in 1861 was married to "a staunch member" of the Iron Molders' Union named JONES. Her husband and their four small children died in an epidemic of yellow fever that ravaged Memphis in 1867. After serving as a volunteer nurse until the disease was halted, the bereft widow returned to Chicago and resumed dressmaking. As she worked on the clothes of families of wealth, she began to resent economic and social inequities. Burned out of all her possessions by the Chicago Fire of 1871, she found a measure of comfort at the scorched hall of the Knights of Labor, whose meetings she attended. She saw the early labor leaders as "saints and martyrs," and thereafter she committed herself increasingly to their struggle against low wages, long hours, and depressed working conditions.

Where there was a strike, she organized and aided the workers; where there was none, she held educational meetings. Beginning in the early 1890's, her thin, wiry figure became especially identified with the struggles of the coal miners.

The production of bituminous coal in West Virginia was omitted from the agreements which the United Mine Workers made with operators in the other Eastern fields. Mother JONES took the lead in organizing unions in that state, first in the northern (Fairmount) district and later in the New River coal camps. In 1903 she broke off an organizing journey through West Virginia to go to Colorado, where, disguised as a peddler, she collected information that led to a walkout in that exploited area. When the Mine Workers' president, John MITCHELL, disavowed the strike, she publicly condemned him and quit her union job.

Renewed appeals to help the coal miners proved irresistible, and in 1911 she was back in West Virginia organizing local unions. Following the mine strike of 1912-13 she was tried by a state militia military court, convicted on a charge of conspiracy to commit murder, and sentenced to prison for twenty years. Labor circles protested strongly, and a Senate investigation was voted, but before it began Mother JONES was freed by the newly elected governor of West Virginia. (*The Autobiography of Mother JONES*, (1925), edited by Mary F. Parton)

The following article appeared February 9, 1909 in the *Herrin Journal*: Mother JONES, the famous labor leader, arrived in Herrin Wednesday evening and will deliver an address Thursday night in the Socialist Hall on North Park Avenue.

The hundredth anniversary of her birth, May 1, 1930, was celebrated with a reception at the Silver Spring, Maryland, home

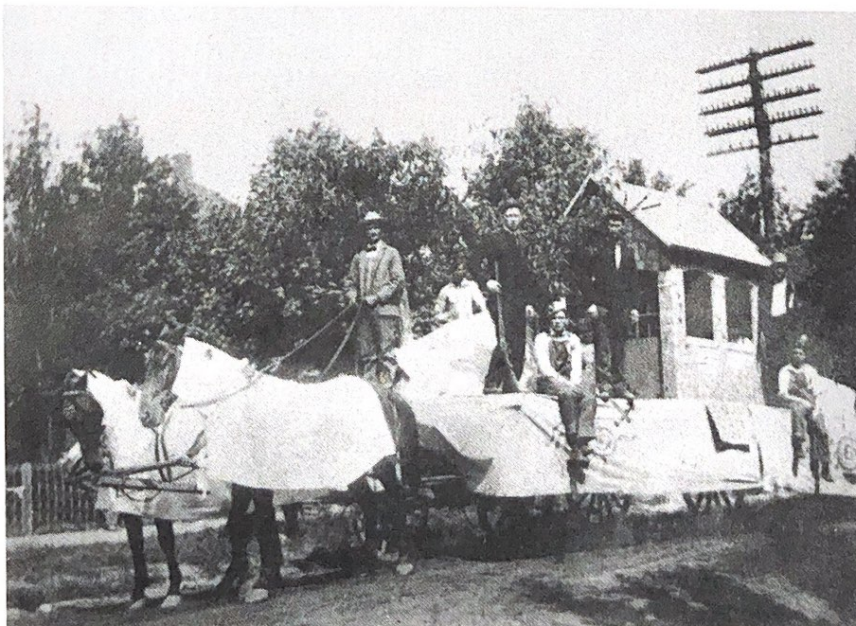


## ILLINOIS COAL MINES (Cont.)

of her friend Mrs. Walter BURGESS, with whom she lived out her last years. White-haired, her small frame dressed in the long familiar black, she spoke with her old vigor into a talking-picture camera. Thanking John D. ROCKEFELLER, Jr., for a message of congratulations, she recalled her battles at the ROCKEFELLER-owned mines of Colorado and said: "He's a damn good sport. I've licked him many times, but we've made peace." As she had fallen out with John MITCHELL, so she parted company with John L. LEWIS, after her hundredth birthday she sent \$1,000 of the money she had accumulated from gifts and organizing work to aid an insurgent group of Illinois miners who were seeking to oust LEWIS from the presidency of the United Mine Workers. She died at Silver Spring seven months after her centennial birthday. After a high requiem mass in Washington, D.C., her body was taken to the bituminous coal fields of southern Illinois, where, at Mount Olive, about forty miles northeast of Saint Louis, in the Union Miners Cemetery, she was buried near the graves of victims of the Virden, Illinois, mine riot of 1898.

The labor writer Tom TIPPETT, who saw Mother JONES at first hand, wrote that she was out of place in the union office because of her quarrelsome habits and lack of constructive policy. Noting that she made her real contribution in the field, he said: "With one speech she often threw a whole community on strike and she could keep the strikers loyal month after month on empty stomachs and behind prison bars". (*Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences*, VIII, 415).

Above all she was passionately humane, and this quality, as much as her utter fearlessness, brought her success where others had failed.



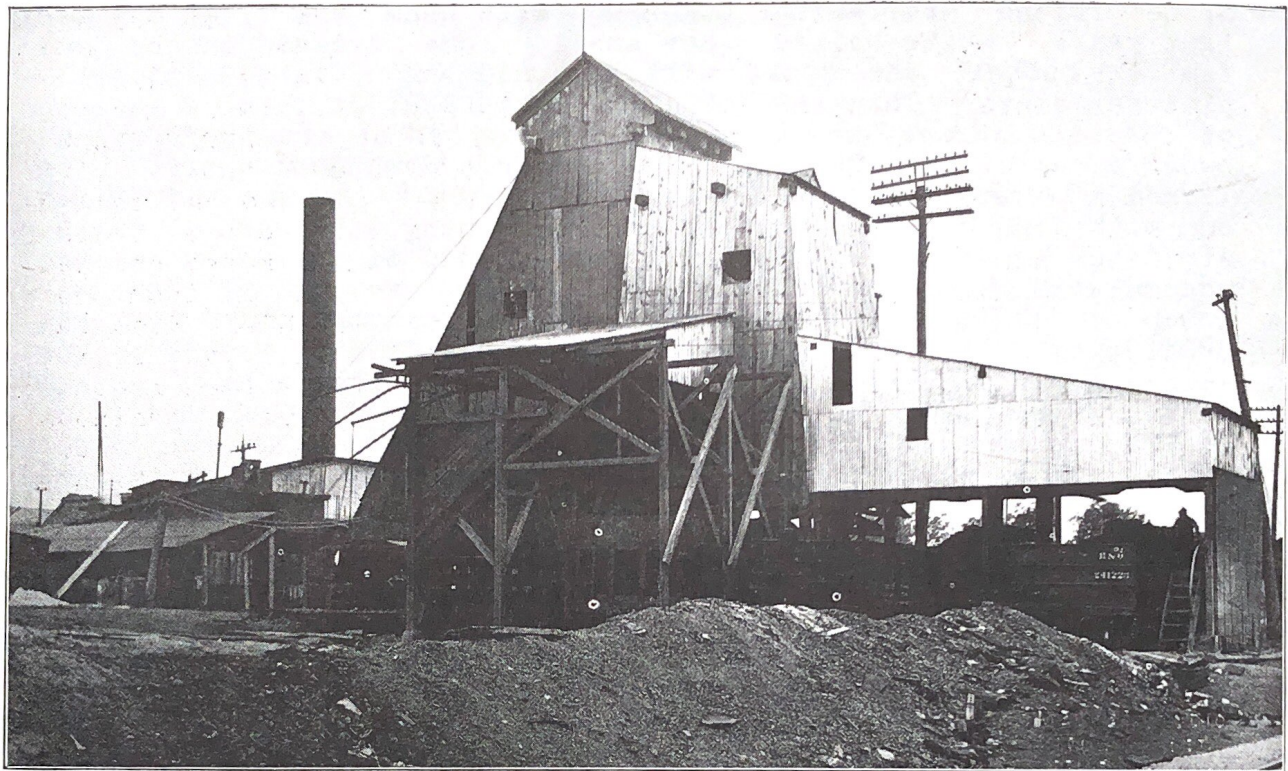
Sign reads: "Maw JONES in W. Virginia jail." Edgar Q. LONG, 5th from left was President of the UMWA Union in Herrin, IL.

Photo submitted by Virginia LONG SMITH, daughter of Edgar Q. LONG.

1913 FOURTH OF JULY PARADE IN HERRIN, ILLINOIS



ILLINOIS COAL MINES (Cont.)



OLDEST MINE IN ILLINOIS STILL OPERATING IN 1927

"Carbon Mine" - International Coal Company, O'Fallen, St. Clair County, opened in 1851. In 1920 changed to W. Virginia Coal Company & in 1922 changed to Perry Coal Company. Does anyone know when this mine worked out or shut down?